

REMARKS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Official Action dated 5 October 2004. Responsive to the rejections made in the Official Action, Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to clarify the combination of elements which form the invention of the subject Patent Application and Claims 4, 9, 14 and 19 have been amended to change the dependency thereof. Additionally, Claims 2, 3, 12 and 13 have been cancelled by this Amendment.

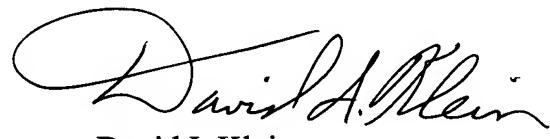
In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8-12, 15, 16, and 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by McCrum, U.S. Patent 4,159,700. The Examiner rejected Claims 7 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over McCrum. However, the Examiner kindly indicated that Claims 3, 4, 13 and 14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claims 2 and 3 therein, thereby effectively rewriting Claim 3 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim, Claim 1, and any intervening claims, Claim 2. Likewise, Claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claims 12 and 13 therein, thereby effectively rewriting Claim 13 in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim, Claim 11, and the only intervening claim, Claim 12. Therefore, Claims 1 and 11 and the Claims dependent thereon should now be allowable. It is believed that the Claims

dependent on Claims 1 and 11 each define further patentably distinct limitations, however, such are at least patentably distinct for the same reasons as Claims 1 and 11, as now amended.

It is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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